

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please change the title of the invention to read:

-- SYSTEM FOR ANALYZING PARTICLES USING MULTIPLE FLOW CYTOMETRY UNITS --

Please replace the first paragraph of the Summary of the Invention with the following paragraph:

-- One aspect of the invention is a multi-channel system for classifying particles according to one or more characteristics of the particles. The system includes a plurality of flow cytometry units. Each of the flow cytometry units is operable to classify particles in a mixture of particles by interrogating a stream of fluid containing said particles using a beam of electromagnetic radiation. Each flow cytometry unit also comprises a sensor operable to generate a time-varying output signal indicative of at least one characteristic of the particles in the stream of fluid as the stream of fluid is interrogated by the beam of electromagnetic radiation. The flow cytometry units share an integrated platform comprising a common processor for receiving and processing information from the units. The common processor is programmed to receive the time-varying output signals from the flow cytometry units substantially continuously and to process the output signals. --

Please replace the abstract with the following abstract:

-- A multi-channel system for classifying particles according to one or more characteristics of the particles includes a plurality of flow cytometry units. Each of the flow

cytometry units is operable to classify particles in a mixture of particles by interrogating a stream of fluid containing said particles using a beam of electromagnetic radiation. Each flow cytometry unit also comprises a sensor operable to generate a time-varying output signal indicative of at least one characteristic of the particles in the stream of fluid as the stream of fluid is interrogated by the beam of electromagnetic radiation. The flow cytometry units share an integrated platform comprising a common processor for receiving and processing information from the units. The common processor is programmed to receive the time-varying output signals from the flow cytometry units substantially continuously and to process the output signals. --